

**BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
VIA ZOOM
Minutes of October 8, 2020**

Present: Jim Curran, Chair
Michael Majerek, Vice Chair
Chris Heugel
Don Meeks Sr.

Absent:

Scheduled: Brian Dissette, County Administrator
Annette Christie, County Administration
Undersheriff Chuck Heit, BCSD

Resolutions: Paul Jancha Jr., Public Defender
Caitlin Sampsell, 911 Administrator
Carrie Smietanka-Haney, Trial Court
Jean Lawrence, Intake Manager/Juvenile Register
Hailey Richards, Specialty Court Manager
Captain Rockey Adams, Emergency Management

Others: Sheriff Bailey, BCSD

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:00am.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Majerek, supported by Meeks, to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2020 meeting. Roll Call Vote as follows: 4 YEAS: Curran, Majerek, Heugel, Meeks. Motion Carried.

In-Car Cameras

Sheriff Bailey reported the server in Niles and Watervliet had been lost. This is an emergency situation and needs to move forward now. He stated the contracts on the other servers are all expiring. Undersheriff Heit reviewed the options and the proposed 5 year maintenance agreement with Akon. The PO covers 24 cameras which includes the spare cars. It is approximately \$96,000 for the first year and \$30,000 for years 2 through 5 of the maintenance agreement.

Motion by Majerek, supported by Meeks, to authorize the Sheriff and County Administrator to enter into the agreement with Akon for the amounts discussed. Roll Call Vote as follows: 4 YEAS: Curran, Majerek, Heugel, Meeks. Motion Carried.

Curran later asked if the cameras were put out for bid. Heit stated it was not because of compatibility issues if another company was used.

Contract for PT Jail Nurse (for COVID-19 related duties)

Sheriff Bailey reported that, due to the testing requirements for COVID-19, everyone coming into or out of the jail for any reason must be tested via a saliva test. Currently, the nurse has been working 7 days per week to perform the tests. Bailey is requesting a temporary, part-time nurse for 4 to 5 hours per day to administer them, which will free up the nurse to conduct other work. Heit discussed the State requirements and expects MDHHS and the DOC to continue the testing

orders. The cost of the employee is covered by the CARES Act funding. The Committee concurred to move the resolution forward.

Resolutions

A2010343 – Approve change in funding for Court LEIN. Sampsell reviewed the interdepartmental agreement from 2007 in which staff entering LEIN and warrant information was to be temporarily housed with 911 until the system was automated. There are currently 1 full time and 6 part time employees covered under the 911 funding. She is requesting the funding of the employees to be split between the court and 911 until the automation is complete. Smietanka-Haney addressed the Committee, stating the court is still working with Equivant and it will not be live until the end of 2021. She expects it to take time for the coordination with the MSP and vendor and is anticipating it to be fully automated in approximately 5 years. Dissette addressed the Committee and stated he does not have a high degree of confidence that it will be within 5 years. The Committee concurred to move the resolution forward.

A2010344 – Accept grand funding for Legal Representation. Lawrence stated the grant was approved for 1/3 of the contract attorneys for abuse and neglect, which will refund approximately \$133,000. She requested acceptance of the grant. The Committee concurred to move the resolution forward.

A2010353 – Approve MOU between Veterans Hospital and Sheriff's Office. Heit reported the VA program will connect with inmates virtually and provide them with help for issues and referrals. They will provide all the hardware necessary. The Committee concurred to move the resolution forward.

A2010355 – Approve contract with Maxim Staffing for PT Jail Nurse for COVID-19 requirements. Resolution discussed above. The Committee concurred to move the resolution forward.

A2010357 – Accept MIDC funding for Public Defender Office. Jancha reported the State approved the \$3.9M budget and \$2.5M grant award. He is requesting acceptance of the grant. The Committee concurred to move the resolution forward.

A2010358 – Accept EMPG funding FY2020 & **A2010359** – Apply for EMPG funding FY2021. Adams reported these are reoccurring performance grants which fund a percentage of salaries. The Committee concurred to move the resolutions forward.

A2010360 – Approve MOU Emergency Management. Adams stated the current integrated public alert and warning systems are being evaluated for redundancy of the systems. This agreement is with Van Buren and Allegan Counties. The Committee concurred to move the resolution forward.

A2010362 – Drug Court Grant Award & **A2010362** – Mental Health Court Grant Award & **A2010364** – Swift & Sure Sanctions Grant Award. Krieger reported she spoke with Hailey Richards, who is not available for this meeting, and the information is in the resolutions. Smietanka-Haney stated they are ongoing annual grants. The Committee concurred to move the resolutions forward.

Update on the FOC Remodel – Brian Dissette

Dissette reviewed the PDF of the designs by Abonmarche. He stated there is a growing anxiety over one of the walls that would be removed as it could contain asbestos. The cost is going to far exceed the \$9,000 previously estimated. He has requested further information from Building &

Grounds. The next step, if accepted, is to go out to bid. It may be funded with the CARES Act. He expects to have pricing and the time frame at the next meeting. Discussions ensued. Dissette emailed the floor plans to the Committee.

Public Comment

Freehling asked if the PT nurse meets the CARES Act requirement. Annette replied yes and that it includes 1,000 hours for PT built into the contract because of the funding.

Freehling wanted to publicly thank Capt. Rockey Adams and his staff for all their work and effort during the past months in responding to the pandemic.

Chairman Curran adjourned the meeting at 9:51am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Arent